WHEN OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS AT OUR DOOR.

Gal.6:10 As we, therefore, have opportunity, let us do good unto all men."

INTRO. The original meaning of "Opportunity" presents two pictures.

"Outside the harbor". The ship ready for the first (breeze

"There is a tide in the affairs of men,
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;
Omitted, all the voyage of their life
Is bound in shallows, and in miseries;
And we must take the current when it serves
Or lose our ventures."

Shakespeare.

"In fromt of the door".

Veiled figure, standing for an instant at the door of one's life, knocking with shapp, swift raps, then, if nonimmediate answer, going away into the nite, refusing to be recalled.

Cardinal Imperiali-"There is no man whom Fortune does not visit once in his life; but when she does not find him re ready to receive her, she walks in at the door and flies out at the window."

Seneca thus describes this veiled figure, "Opportunity has hair in front; behind she is bald. If you sieze her by the forelock, you may hold her; but if suffered to escape, not jupiter himself can catch her again."

How often has Opportunity knocked at the door of a man's soul, inviting him to sail away from poverty to riches, from lonliness to fellowship, from dependence to useful service, from slavery of evil habits and influences to the liberty of Christ, only to find him too slothful or indifferennt to open the door, and unprepared to weigh anchor for the great adventure of life, passing swiftly away from him, into the night of a lost opportunity.

I. Let us consider a few of the ways in which dispose of their opportunities.

1. Some men murder their opportunities.

Saul, going out to seek his father's asses, finds a kingdom! But Saul claimed his kingdom to be his own possession with which to do as he pleased, instead of as a trust and a duty. Thru a selfish use of his opportunity, Saul murdered it outright